

MINUTES

City Council Meeting

Monday, March 5, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order: Mayor Holder welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Opening: Mayor Pro-tem George offered the opening prayer and Mayor Holder invited everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Mayor Holder presided. Council Members: Don Bethune, Bruce Campbell, Rosetta Bryant Cody, Scott George, Bessie Kicklighter and Judy Shuman.

Staff Present: Brian Johnson, City Manager; Ron Feldner, Deputy City Manager; Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; Ben Brengman, IT Director; Pam Franklin, HR Director; Scott Allison, PED Director; Cory Sally, Finance Director; Charles Draeger, Water Operations Director; Cliff Ducey, Recreation Director; Jimmy Crosby, Fire Chief; David Lyons, Chief of Police and Bennie Gooze, Public Works Director.

Presentation by the Muscular Dystrophy Association: Representative from the MDA recognized the Garden City Fire Department for their efforts in raising \$13,346 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. She said over the years the Garden City Fire Department has raised a total of \$33,000 and they are the No. 1 Fire Department in the State of Georgia in raising funds.

Chief Crosby said this year our goal is to collect \$15,000. He said we have already collected \$8,000 toward our goal. He thanked the citizens and everyone for their donations.

Mayor Holder said City Council held a Pre-Agenda Session prior to tonight's meeting. He said no decisions were made during the Pre-Agenda Session.

Informal Public Comment: Mayor Holder asked if there was anyone who wished to address City Council. There being no questions or comments, Mayor Holder closed the Informal Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Formal Public Comment: Mayor Holder said we received no formal requests to address City Council at tonight's meeting.

City Council Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Bethune, City Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes dated 2/20/12.

Staff Reports:

PED Director presented the Planning & Economic Development Department's Monthly Status Report.

Mayor Pro-tem George asked how many total cases?

PED Director said we had a total of 96 cases with 51 closed.

HR Director presented the Human Resources Department's Monthly Status Report.

Councilmember Kicklighter said in last month's HR's report we had 106 employees. She said now we have 107. She said I thought we lost two police officers.

City Manager said these are budgeted positions. He said we are not going beyond the number of positions council approved.

IT Director presented the Information Technology Department's Monthly Status Report.

Public Works Director presented the Public Works Department's Monthly Status Report.

Mayor Pro-tem George said how many total miles of ditches are cleaned?

Public Works Director said I don't have that number in front of me. I will find out and let you know.

Councilmember Bethune asked how the drainage held up with all the rain over the weekend.

Public Works Director said it held up fine. We did not have any major drainage problems.

Recreation Director presented the Parks & Recreation Department's Monthly Status Report.

Recreation Director said the Easter Eggstravaganza will be held on March 31st from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Sharon Park. He said the Recreation Department's Opening Day Parade will be held on April 14th.

City Manager Updates:

City Manager said at the last council meeting we had a resident express concerns regarding her water bill. He said staff looked into her bill to clear up the confusion and her account is in good standing and remains in good standing.

State of the City Address: City Manager presented the State of the City Address to City Council and the citizens of Garden City.

Items for Consideration:

PC1201, Rezoning Request, Telfair Place: Mayor Holder said we have for consideration of a request by Chad Zittrouer of Kern-Coleman & Co., LLC representing Joseph Giles of Veinte Holdings, LLC, to rezone Telfair Place (PIN #6-0799-02-0028) from C-1 to C-2 to operate a pre-owned auto sales business.

Councilmember Kicklighter asked the petitioners to comment on what materials the structure will be constructed of and if the parking lot will be paved.

Mr. Chad Zittrouer said the structure will be stucco and will have large glass windows in the front. He said we plan to adhere to the City's requirements and we will meet with the Planning Director on our building and landscaping plans.

Councilmember Bethune said Chatham Parkway is one of our major thoroughfares and you are giving us a commitment that the building and property will look nice.

Mr. Joseph Giles said that our Abercorn place is subpar and it hinders our ability to sell cars. He said we are looking to build a nice facility so it can improve our ability to sell cars.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Bethune, City Council voted unanimously to approve the rezoning request.

Beautification Committee Appointment: Mayor Holder said we have for consideration appointing Ms. Jessica Auner to serve on the Beautification Committee.

Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember George, City Council voted unanimously to appoint Ms. Jessice Auner to serve on the Beautification Committee.

Resolution, Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant: Mayor Holder read a resolution to amend the FY12 General Fund Budget to accurately reflect monies to be received from the Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant not reflected in the originally budgeted and presently projected revenues for the General Fund.

City Manager said this grant was secured by the Police Department. He said the purpose of this resolution is to reflect in the record that you will accept the money from the grant.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Bethune, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the resolution.

First Reading - Ordinance Amendment to GMEBS Retirement Plan: Mayor Holder read for the first reading of an ordinance to amend and restate the Retirement Plan for the Employees of the City of Garden City, Georgia, in accordance with and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Adoption Agreement, and Addendum to the Adoption Agreement, the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System (GMEBS) Master Plan Document, and the GMEBS Trust Agreement; to repeal all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith. Mayor Holder said this is just a housekeeping item.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to approve the ordinance on the first reading.

Upon by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Bethune, City Council voted unanimously to suspend the rules of council and hold the second reading of the ordinance.

Second Reading - Ordinance Amendment to GMEBS Retirement Plan: Mayor Holder read for the second reading of an ordinance to amend and restate the Retirement Plan for the Employees of the City of Garden City, Georgia, in accordance with and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Adoption Agreement, and Addendum to the Adoption Agreement, the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System (GMEBS) Master Plan Document, and the GMEBS Trust Agreement; to repeal all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the ordinance on the second reading.

Adjournment: Upon motion by Councilmember Bethune, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Transcribed by: Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council
Adopted by City Council: 3/19/12